

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A video selection server for selectively relaying video information, comprising:

receiving means for receiving a video stream  
5 delivered via a first network;

information analysis means for analyzing  
information about the video stream received by the  
receiving means;

decision means for determining whether or not a  
10 result of analysis by the information analysis means  
fulfills a predetermined criterion, to judge whether to  
permit delivery of the video stream received by the  
receiving means to a second network; and

transmitting means for transmitting, to the  
15 second network, the video stream of which the delivery to  
the second network has been permitted by the decision  
means.

2. The video selection server according to claim  
20 1, wherein the decision means permits the delivery of the  
video stream for which a request has been output from a  
device connected to the second network.

3. The video selection server according to claim  
25 2, wherein the receiving means receives the video stream  
which has been multicast on the first network, and

the transmitting means unicasts the requested

video stream to a client which has output the request.

4. The video selection server according to claim  
3, wherein, if the request for the video stream has been  
5 output from more clients than a predetermined number, the  
transmitting means delivers the video stream by multicast.

5. The video selection server according to claim  
2, wherein the receiving means receives the video stream  
10 which has been unicast via the first network, and  
the transmitting means delivers the video stream  
by multicast.

6. The video selection server according to claim  
15 1, wherein the information analysis means analyzes a  
transmission protocol of the video stream.

7. The video selection server according to claim  
1, wherein the information analysis means analyzes an  
20 encoding scheme of the video stream.

8. The video selection server according to claim  
1, wherein the information analysis means analyzes video  
contents of the video stream.

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9. The video selection server according to claim  
1, wherein, if the received video stream contains a

plurality of videos, the receiving means separates the received video stream into a plurality of video streams corresponding to the respective videos.

5           10. A video delivery system for delivering a video stream, comprising:

an encoder for encoding captured video to obtain a video stream and delivering the video stream via a first network; and

10           a video selection server for receiving the video stream delivered via the first network, analyzing information about the received video stream, determining whether or not a result of the analysis fulfills a predetermined criterion, to judge whether to permit  
15 delivery of the received video stream to a second network, and transmitting, to the second network, the video stream of which the delivery to the second network has been permitted.

20           11. The video delivery system according to claim 10, wherein the video selection server has a multi-stage configuration such that the video stream transmitted from a preceding-stage video selection server is delivered to a succeeding-stage video selection server.

25           12. The video delivery system according to claim 11, wherein the succeeding-stage video selection server

includes a plurality of video selection servers connected to the preceding-stage video selection server.

13. A video selection method for selectively  
5 relaying video information, comprising the steps of:

receiving a video stream delivered via a first network;

analyzing information about the received video stream;

10 determining whether or not a result of the analysis fulfills a predetermined criterion, to judge whether to permit delivery of the received video stream to a second network; and

transmitting, to the second network, the video  
15 stream of which the delivery to the second network has been permitted.

14. A video selection program for relaying a video stream, wherein the video selection program causes a  
20 computer to perform the process of:

receiving a video stream delivered via a first network;

analyzing information about the received video stream;

25 determining whether or not a result of the analysis fulfills a predetermined criterion, to judge whether to permit delivery of the received video stream to

a second network; and

transmitting, to the second network, the video stream of which the delivery to the second network has been permitted.

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15. A computer-readable recording medium recording a video selection program for selectively relaying video information, wherein the video selection program causes the computer to perform the process of:

10 receiving a video stream delivered via a first network;

analyzing information about the received video stream;

15 determining whether or not a result of the analysis fulfills a predetermined criterion, to judge whether to permit delivery of the received video stream to a second network; and

20 transmitting, to the second network, the video stream of which the delivery to the second network has been permitted.